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Message Text

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73
ORIGIN EUR-12

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INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SAJ-01 DODE-00

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DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:JKORNBLUM:AP
APPROVED BY EUR:RVINE
EUR/CE:DANDERSON
S/S -REWOODS
EB/EWT:MLORIMER
C:WSHINN
COMMERCE:ADOWNEY(DRAFT)
---------- 032779
O R 112347Z AUG 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 190103

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:BEXP, EGEN, ETRD, PFOR, GE, US

SUBJECT:US/GDR TRADE TALKS

REF: A) STATE 175485 B) BERLIN 6118 (NOTAL) C) BERLIN 6136 (NOTAL) D) BERLIN 6115

1. EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS IN FURTHER DISCUSSION OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR US-GDR TALKS:

A. DATES FOR TALKS: SCHEDULE OUTLINED IN REFS (B) AND (C) IS ACCEPTABLE TO DOWNEY. HE COULD ARRIVE IN LEIPZIG IN TIME TO COMMENCE TALKS ON MORNING OF SUNDAY AUGUST 31.
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B. PARTICIPANTS: PROPOSED US PARTICIPANTS REMAIN AS DESCRIBED IN PARA 4 REF (A). WHILE UNDERSTANDING THE PRESSURES ON BEIL'S SCHEDULE DURING FAIR WEEK, WE WOULD HOPE THAT HE COULD DEVOTE AS MUCH TIME AS POSSIBLE TO THE TALKS, WHICH WE CONSIDER IMPORTANT FIRST STEP IN DEVELOPMENT OF US-GDR TRADE RELATIONS. AT MINIMUM, DOWNEY WILL WISH TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY FOR UNHURRIED EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH BEIL. LUNCHEON AND/OR MEETING ON AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 2 WOULD APPEAR TO OFFER OPPORTUNITY FOR SUCH AN EXCHANGE. BEFORE GIVING FINAL AGREEMENT TO ARRANGEMENTS FOR TALKS, WE WOULD

WISH TO HAVE DEFINITIVE GDR RESPONSE ON BEIL PARTICIPATION AND ON NAMES OF OTHER GDR PARTICIPANTS.

C. AGENDA: OUR VIEWS ON AGENDA REMAIN AS DESCRIBED IN PARAS 2 AND 3 OF REF (A). WE WOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS OF TRADE IN MACHINE TOOLS (REF (D), BUT WOULD WISH TO HAVE BETTER IDEA OF SPECIFIC ISSUES GDR HAS IN MI. FINAL US APPROVAL OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR TALKS WILL ALSO BE CONDITIONED ON AGREEMENT ON SPECIFIC POINTS TO BE INCLUDED IN AGENDA.

2. DEPARTMENT OFFICERS (EUR/CE) DISCUSSED GENERAL US APPROACH TO TRADE TALKS AS SET FORTH IN REF (A) WITH GDR COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR LANGE ON AUGUST 8. IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION, LANGE MENTIONED THAT HE HAD MET WITH BEIL DURING A RECENT VISIT TO BERLIN FOR CONSULTATIONS. LANGE SAID BEIL CONTINUED TO BE INTERESTED IN A VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES, BUT BELIEVED THAT US-GDR RELATIONS HAD GONE BEYOND THE POINT WHERE A PURELY COMMERCIAL VISIT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. BEIL NOW WISHED TO RECEIVE AN OFFICIAL INVITATION TO DISCUSS THE "ECONOMIC" ASPECTS OF US-GDR RELATIONS IN WASHINGTON. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, LANGE SAID THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT OF THE "ECONOMIC"MATTERS BEIL WISHED TO DISCUSS WAS MFN.

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3. AS NOTED IN PARA 3 OF REF (A), DOWNEY WILL NOT BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS MFN EXCEPT AS PART OF EXPLANATION OF THE TRADE ACT AND OF OTHER US LEGISLATION. HE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SAY WHETHER AND WHEN AN INVITATION TO BEIL FOR AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE US WOULD BE POSSIBLE.

4. DEPARTMENT WISHES TO MAINTAIN BEIL VISIT AS A QUESTION TOTALLY SEPARATE FROM ARRANGEMENTS FOR TECHNICAL TALKS.

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EMBASSY SHOULD THUS NOT, RPT NOT, RAISE BEIL VISIT DURING PREPARATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER MEETING. IF QUESTION OF OFFICIAL VISIT BY BEIL IS RAISED BY GDR SIDE, EMBASSY SHOULD LIMIT ITS RESPONSE TO PROMISE TO REPORT GDR VIEWS TO WASHINGTON.

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